



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Rhodes et al.

Group Art Unit: 3636

Serial No.: 10/646,187

Examiner: Peter R. Brown

Filed: 8/22/2003

For: underfloor Stowage Of A Folding Seat In A Vehicle

Attorney Docket No.: 706441US4

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97-1.98, the references listed and identified on the attached Form PTO/SB08A are being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner.

This Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), i.e., before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request For Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Thus, no additional fees or certification are required in connection with this statement. A copy of a foreign search report citing the listed references in a foreign counterpart application is also enclosed.

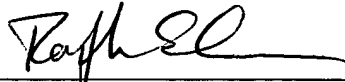
While this Statement is being filed in compliance with the duty of disclosure, citation of the attached references is not to be construed as an admission that any of the reference(s) are "material" as defined under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

Because the present application was/is being filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications which are listed on the attached Form 1449

are enclosed pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Any foreign patent documents or non-patent literature listed on the attached Form PTO/SB08A are enclosed herewith.

Consideration and entry into the record of these references is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Ralph E. Smith  
Reg. No. 35,474

Date: 10/27/04

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Form PTO-1449

**PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3

ATTORNEY DOCKET No.

706441US4

SERIAL No.

10/646,187

APPLICANT

Rhodes et al.

FILING DATE

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GROUP

Examiner P. Brown  
3636**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Ref. Desig. | Examiner's Initials | Document Number | Date    | Name            | Class/ Subclass | (If appropriate) Filing Date |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 1.          |                     | 1887947         | 11/1932 | Savale          |                 |                              |
| 2.          |                     | 4005902         | 2/1977  | Balin           |                 |                              |
| 3.          |                     | 4846520         | 7/1989  | Acuto et al.    |                 |                              |
| 4.          |                     | 4925228         | 5/1990  | Pipon et al.    |                 |                              |
| 5.          |                     | 5482349         | 1/1996  | Richter et al.  |                 |                              |
| 6.          |                     | 5527087         | 6/1996  | Takeda et al.   |                 |                              |
| 7.          |                     | 5868451         | 2/1999  | Uno et al.      |                 |                              |
| 8.          |                     | 5927789         | 7/1999  | Mezzadri et al. |                 |                              |
| 9.          |                     | 6129405         | 10/2000 | Miyahara et al. |                 |                              |
| 10.         |                     | 6270140         | 8/2001  | Opfer et al.    |                 |                              |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Ref. Desig. | Examiner's Initials | Document Number | Date    | Country | Class/ Subclass | Translation Yes | No |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|----|
| 1.          |                     | WO 0002/14104   | 2/2002  | WIPO    |                 |                 |    |
| 2.          |                     | 000120817       | 10/1984 | Europe  |                 |                 |    |
| 3.          |                     | 002575708       | 7/1986  | France  |                 |                 |    |

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)**

| Ref. Desig. | Examiner's Initials |  |
|-------------|---------------------|--|
| 1.          |                     |  |

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| 11.         |                     | 6279982         | 8/2001  | Nishimura et al. |                 |                              |
| 12.         |                     | 6629721         | 10/2003 | Macey            |                 | 5/2/02                       |
| 13.         |                     | 6648393         | 11/2003 | Milnar et al.    |                 | 12/17/02                     |
| 14.         |                     | 6688666         | 2/2004  | Neale et al.     |                 | 9/13/02                      |
| 15.         |                     | 6705658         | 3/2004  | Jach et al.      |                 | 4/2903                       |
| 16.         |                     | US-2001/0002759 | 6/2001  | Nishide          |                 |                              |
| 17.         |                     |                 |         |                  |                 |                              |
| 18.         |                     |                 |         |                  |                 |                              |
| 19.         |                     |                 |         |                  |                 |                              |
| 20.         |                     |                 |         |                  |                 |                              |

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| 4.          |                     | 363227435       | 9/1988 | Japan   |                 |                 |    |
| 5.          |                     | 401095947       | 4/1989 | Japan   |                 |                 |    |

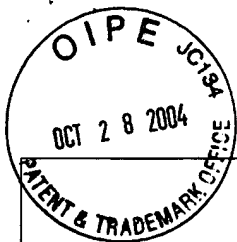
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| 21.         |                     |                 |      |      |                 |                              |
| 22.         |                     |                 |      |      |                 |                              |
| 23.         |                     |                 |      |      |                 |                              |
| 24.         |                     |                 |      |      |                 |                              |
| 25.         |                     |                 |      |      |                 |                              |
| 26.         |                     |                 |      |      |                 |                              |

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| 6.          |                     | 3507480         | 3/2004  | Japan   |                 |                 |    |
| 7.          |                     | 2003212017      | 7/2003  | Japan   |                 |                 |    |
| 8.          |                     | 2003094997      | 4/2003  | Japan   |                 |                 |    |
| 9.          |                     | 98057165        | 9/1998  | Korea   |                 |                 |    |
| 10.         |                     | 411005477       | 1/1999  | Japan   |                 |                 |    |
| 11.         |                     | 2735081         | 12/1996 | France  |                 |                 |    |
|             |                     |                 |         |         |                 |                 |    |

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